

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1        1. A method of calculating probability of collision by birds within a wind park, the  
2        method comprising:
  - 3                modeling a wind turbine to create a wind-turbine model;
  - 4                modeling a challenged bird to create a challenged-bird model;
  - 5                modeling a wind park to create a wind-park model, the wind park comprising at least one  
6        of the wind turbine;
  - 7                calculating a probability of wind-turbine collision by the challenged bird; and
  - 8                wherein the step of calculating comprises using the wind-turbine model, the challenged-  
9        bird model, and the wind-park model.
- 1        2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of modeling the wind turbine comprises:
  - 2                dimensionally modeling the wind turbine; and
  - 3                inputting a speed of a rotor of the wind turbine.
- 1        3. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of dimensionally modeling the wind  
2        turbine comprises:
  - 3                inputting a blade depth of the rotor;
  - 4                inputting a blade width of the rotor; and
  - 5                modeling a monopole of the wind turbine.

1       4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of modeling the challenged bird  
2 comprises:

3       modeling the challenged bird as a curved surface; and  
4       wherein the challenged-bird model assumes that the challenged bird enters a plane of the  
5 rotor of the wind turbine with a belly of the challenged bird facing a hub of the rotor.

1       5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of modeling the wind park comprises  
2 modeling a row of the plurality of the wind turbine.

1       6. The method of claim 5, wherein the step of modeling the wind park comprises  
2 determining a number of rows in the wind park.

1       7. The method of claim 5, wherein the step of modeling the wind park comprises  
2 determining an inter-wind-turbine distance.

1       8. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of calculating the probability of collision  
2 by the challenged bird comprises:

3       calculating a worst-case collision probability per row by the challenged bird; and  
4       calculating a best-case collision probability per row by the challenged bird.

1           9.       The method of claim 8, wherein:  
2           the step of calculating the worst-case collision probability per row by the challenged bird  
3       is performed at a plurality of challenged-bird flight elevations; and  
4           the step of calculating the best-case collision probability per row by the challenged bird is  
5       performed at the plurality of challenged-bird flight elevations.

1           10.      The method of claim 1, wherein the step of calculating the probability of collision  
2       by the challenged bird comprises:  
3           calculating a worst-case collision probability by the challenged bird for the wind park;  
4       and  
5           calculating a best-case collision probability by the challenged bird for the wind park.

1           11.      The method of claim 10, wherein:

2            $P_{wc} = 1 - (1 - P_{wcr})^{row}$ ;  
3        $P_{wc}$  is the worst-case collision probability by the challenged bird for the wind park;  
4        $P_{wcr}$  is the worst-case collision probability by the challenged bird per row; and  
5       row is the number of rows in the wind park.

1           12.      The method of claim 11, wherein  $P_{wc}$  and  $P_{wcr}$  are each a function of the  
2       challenged-bird flight elevation.

- 1        13.      The method of claim 1, wherein the challenged bird is modeled as an attractor.
- 1        14.      The method of claim 1, wherein the challenged bird is modeled as an avoider.
- 1        15.      The method of claim 1, wherein a non-linear flight path of the challenged bird is  
2        simulated by adjusting a flight speed of the challenged bird.

1        16. An article of manufacture for calculating probability of collision by birds within  
2 a wind park, the article of manufacture comprising:

3                at least one computer readable medium; and  
4                processor instructions contained on the at least one computer readable medium,  
5 the processor instructions configured to be readable from the at least one computer readable  
6 medium by at least one processor and thereby cause the at least one processor to operate as to:

7                model a wind turbine to create a wind-turbine model;  
8                model a challenged bird to create a challenged-bird model;  
9                model a wind park to create a wind-park model, the wind park comprising  
10                at least one of the wind turbine;  
11                calculate a probability of wind-turbine collision by the challenged bird;  
12                and  
13                wherein the calculation comprises using the wind-turbine model, the  
14                challenged-bird model, and the wind-park model.

1        17. The article of claim 16, wherein the processor instructions cause the at least one  
2 processor to:  
3                dimensionally model the wind turbine; and  
4                use a speed of a rotor of the wind turbine.

1        18.     The article of claim 17, wherein the processor instructions are configured to cause  
2     the at least one processor to:

3              use a blade depth of the rotor;

4              use a blade width of the rotor; and

5              model a monopole of the wind turbine.

1        19.     The article of claim 16, wherein the processor instructions are configured to cause  
2     the at least one processor to:

3              model the challenged bird as a curved surface; and

4              wherein the challenged-bird model assumes that the challenged bird enters a plane of the  
5     rotor of the wind turbine with a belly of the challenged bird facing a hub of the rotor.

1        20.     The article of claim 16, wherein the processor instructions are configured to cause  
2     the at least one processor to model a row of the plurality of the wind turbine.

1        21.     The article of claim 20, wherein the wind-park model comprises a number of rows  
2     in the wind park.

1        22.     The article of claim 20, wherein the wind-park model comprises at least one inter-  
2     wind-turbine distance.

1        23.     The article of claim 16, wherein the processor instructions are configured to cause  
2     the at least one processor to:

3              calculate a worst-case collision probability per row by the challenged bird; and  
4              calculate a best-case collision probability per row by the challenged bird.

1        24.     The article of claim 23, wherein the processor instructions are configured to cause  
2     the at least one processor to:

3              calculate the worst-case collision probability per row by the challenged bird at a plurality  
4     of challenged-bird flight elevations; and  
5              calculate the best-case collision probability per row by the challenged bird at the plurality  
6     of challenged-bird flight elevations.

1        25.     The article of claim 16, wherein the processor instructions are configured to cause  
2     the at least one processor to:

3              calculate a worst-case collision probability by the challenged bird for the wind park; and  
4              calculate a best-case collision probability by the challenged bird for the wind park.

1        26. The article of claim 25, wherein:

2         $P_{wc} = 1 - (1 - P_{wcr})^{row};$

3         $P_{wc}$  is the worst-case collision probability by the challenged bird for the wind park;

4         $P_{wcr}$  is the worst-case collision probability by the challenged bird per row; and

5        *row* is the number of rows in the wind park.

1        27. The article of claim 26, wherein  $P_{wc}$  and  $P_{wcr}$  are each a function of the  
2        challenged-bird flight elevation.

1        28. The article of claim 16, wherein the challenged bird is modeled as an attractor.

1        29. The article of claim 16, wherein the challenged bird is modeled as an avoider.

1        30. The article of claim 16, wherein the processor instructions are configured to cause  
2        the at least one processor to operate so as to simulate a non-linear flight path of the challenged  
3        bird by adjusting a flight speed of the challenged bird.

1           31. A method of calculating probability of collision by animals with at least one  
2 structure, the method comprising:

3                 modeling a structure of the at least one structure to create a structure model;

4                 modeling a challenged animal to create a challenged-animal model;

5                 modeling a structure area to create a structure-area model, the structure area comprising  
6 at least one of the at least one structure;

7                 calculating a probability of structure collision by the challenged animal; and

8                 wherein the step of calculating comprises using the structure model, the challenged-  
9 animal model, and the structure-area model.

1           32. The method of claim 31, wherein the step of modeling the structure comprises  
2 dimensionally modeling the structure.

1           33. The method of claim 31, wherein the step of modeling the structure area  
2 comprises modeling a row of the at least one structure.

1           34. The method of claim 33, wherein the step of modeling the structure area  
2 comprises determining a number of rows in the structure area.

1           35. The method of claim 31, wherein the step of calculating the probability of  
2 collision by the challenged animal comprises:

3                 calculating a worst-case collision probability per row by the challenged animal; and

4                 calculating a best-case collision probability per row by the challenged animal.

1       36. The method of claim 31, wherein the step of calculating the probability of  
2 collision by the challenged animal comprises:

3           calculating a worst-case collision probability by the challenged animal for the structure  
4 area; and

5           calculating a best-case collision probability by the challenged animal for the structure  
6 area.

1       37. The method of claim 36, wherein:

2        $P_{wc} = 1 - (1 - P_{wcr})^{row};$

3        $P_{wc}$  is the worst-case collision probability by the challenged animal for the structure area;

4        $P_{wcr}$  is the worst-case collision probability by the challenged animal per row; and

5        $row$  is the number of rows in the structure area.

1           38. An article of manufacture for calculating probability of collision by animals  
2       within a structure area, the article of manufacture comprising:  
3                 at least one computer readable medium; and  
4                 processor instructions contained on the at least one computer readable medium,  
5       the processor instructions configured to be readable from the at least one computer readable  
6       medium by at least one processor and thereby cause the at least one processor to operate as to:  
7                 model a structure to create a structure model;  
8                 model a challenged animal to create a challenged-animal model;  
9                 model the structure area to create a structure-area model, the structure area  
10      comprising at least one of the at least one structure;  
11                 calculate a probability of structure collision by the challenged animal;  
12      and  
13                 wherein the calculation comprises using the structure model, the  
14      challenged-animal model, and the structure-area model.

1           39. The article of claim 38, wherein the processor instructions cause the at least one  
2       processor to dimensionally model the structure.

1           40. The article of claim 38, wherein the processor instructions are configured to cause  
2       the at least one processor to model the challenged animal as a curved surface.

1        41.     The article of claim 38, wherein the processor instructions are configured to cause  
2     the at least one processor to model a row of the at least one structure.

1        42.     The article of claim 41, wherein the structure-area model comprises a number of  
2     rows in the structure area.

1        43.     The article of claim 38, wherein the processor instructions are configured to cause  
2     the at least one processor to:  
3              calculate a worst-case collision probability per row by the challenged animal; and  
4              calculate a best-case collision probability per row by the challenged animal.

1        44.     The article of claim 38, wherein the processor instructions are configured to cause  
2     the at least one processor to:  
3              calculate a worst-case collision probability by the challenged animal for the structure  
4     area; and  
5              calculate a best-case collision probability by the challenged animal for the structure area.

1        45.     The article of claim 44, wherein:  
2               $P_{wc} = 1 - (1 - P_{wcr})^{row}$ ;  
3               $P_{wc}$  is the worst-case collision probability by the challenged animal for the structure area;  
4               $P_{wcr}$  is the worst-case collision probability by the challenged animal per row; and  
5               $row$  is the number of rows in the structure area.